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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: REMERICQ, MAURICE

SERIAL NO.: 10/047,907

ART UNIT: 3652

FILED: January 15, 2002

EXAMINER: BRAHAN, T.J.

TITLE: PROCESS AND A DEVICE FOR THE ON-LINE STORAGE OF SETS OF FLAT PRODUCTS SUCH AS, IN PARTICULAR, DISPOSABLE LINERS OR SANITARY NAPKINS

AMENDMENT "A"

Director of the U.S. Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 10, 2003, having a response being due on December 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendment A: SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

On page 9, paragraph [0047], please revise the paragraph as follows:

B₁ ~~Said The~~ pressing means 6 are constituted, for example, by two carriages 15 sliding ~~in the same, so-called clamping, toward each other~~ direction, on said pod 11, and by means 16 for holding said the carriages 15 spaced apart by a given distance. In Fig. 3, the spacing between carriages 15 shown in solid lines corresponds to the open configuration, while the spacing between the carriages shown in dotted lines corresponds to the product holding configuration. The clamping direction is indicated by reference number 17.

On page 9 - 10, paragraph [0061]³⁰, please revise the paragraph as follows:

B₂ As more especially illustrated in Figs. 4a and 4b, said means 16 for holding carriages 15 are constituted, in particular, by first and second blocking means 22a, 22b, capable of engaging with one another, first blocking means 22a being secured to said carriage 15 and second blocking means 22b being articulated in relation to said pod 11. Said means 16 for holding the carriages are also

B2 constituted by locking means 23 borne by pod 11, said locking means 23 being capable of forcing the engagement of said second blocking means with said first blocking means 22a.

On page 10, paragraph [0053], please revise the paragraph as follows:

B3 Said locking means 23 are constituted, for example, by a finger 28, acting as a spring (not shown), bearing, directly or otherwise, in the area of lateral side members 14 of pod 11 in such a way that said finger forces the rotation of said arms 26 in the direction of arrow 29 in Fig. 4a and in the opposite direction in Fig. 4b and, consequently, the engagement with one another of racks 24, 25.

On page 11, paragraph [0055], please revise the paragraph as follows:

B4 There are provided, in particular, two ~~said~~ first jacks 30, that is to say one for each arm 26. Said The first jacks 30 have a rod 33 moving in ~~a direction~~ directions 34 perpendicular to clamping direction 17 to force arms 26 to rotate in the direction opposite to that imposed thereupon by finger 28. Said The arms 26 take the form, ~~for example,~~ of an L; said The rod 33 of first jacks 30 acting acts on one of the ends of one of the arms of the L, while said finger 28 of locking means 23 acts on the other arm.

On page 12, paragraph [0061], please revise the paragraph as follows:

B5 With reference, now, to Figs. 6 and 7, it will be noted that said ejection means 7 include, for example, a thrust bearing 44 and means for displacing said thrust bearing in a first direction. The latter means are constituted by means 46 capable of generating a force in a second direction 47 substantially perpendicular to said first direction 45, and by means 48 for transmitting said force, cooperating with said stop ~~44~~ 42.